

Small Group Discussion Questions

Darlington County

What is occurring in your communities which addresses these responsibilities and areas for action?

- New facilities in Darlington County
- New career center being used by Florence-Darlington TEC
- Dual enrollment with Clemson and USC
- Meeting with different agencies to ensure quality K4 programs, ie Headsart, private programs and DCSC
- SIC
- Mentor programs
- Freshman (9th) advisors
- Shared recreational facilities
- First Steps/engagement with PK- program
- Imagination library/ books for preschoolers
- Library / Make home visits, literacy promotion, child activities
- District/ ongoing partnership with head start for ease in school transition
- After school programs
- Business partnerships/ school and business relation/ emphasis- career opportunity
- Need: we should market what we do
- Hold community forum
- We have a need for a greater public presence

What are the critical barriers to fulfilling the commitment in our community?

- Budgets
- Poverty
- Jobs
- Tax restricted job opportunities
- Health
- Staff compensation
- Resources
- Working conditions
- Staff Qualifications
- Lack of access
- Communications among diverse populations
- Lack of literacy
- Increasing diversity
- Understanding poverty
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List the 5 most important things you community can do to address the responsibilities of Common Ground.

- Interagency communication/ Integration
- Collective “voices” from the interagencies
- Systemic flexibility
- Give hope!
- Having champions who reflect core values
- Understand and check the influence of gangs
- Understand diversity